



## MERROW RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

# AUTUMN EVENT 2001

# COME AND MEET OUR COUNTRYSIDE RANGER

**Wednesday 7th November at 7.30 p.m.**

**Mr. Bob Crompton will be the guest speaker at our autumn meeting.**

**A slide presentation will be used to support his talk. As he is responsible for the Newlands Corner area your Committee hope a large audience of Merrow people will greet him in the new St. John's Centre.**

Free Admission

Refreshments

Non-members welcome  
St. John's Church Centre, Merrow

# MERROW LIFE

The Newsletter of the Merrow Residents' Association  
Autumn 2001 Issue No 10

## MRA AGM 2001 and 2002

A copy of the Minutes from the last Annual General Meeting held on April 25th is enclosed with this Newsletter.

The AGM in 2002 will be held at the St. John Centre on Wednesday 24th April - please make a note in your diary.

## St. John's Church Centre

This attractively designed new community facility is due to be handed over to the Church by the builder at the end of October.

Our autumn meeting will be one of the first public meetings in the Centre. Foyer, small hall and community hall will provide seated accommodation for 24, 30 and 150 respectively.

A rapid assembly stage system will provide flexible facilities for various occasions. A ground floor kitchen will enable users to serve hot or cold meals and beverages. A suite of rooms on the first floor can be reached by stone stairway or platform lift for the disabled.



Builders begin the finishing touches

### Merrow Shops

MRA kept in touch with DEBRA management in the hope that a suitable arrangement could be made eventually for them to return to Merrow.

We are now delighted to welcome them back to the former Gateway premises.

### Slyfield Incinerator

In June, Graham Thorp represented MRA on the GAIN group. In July, Graham produced a leaflet, paid for by MRA, and distributed by Graham, his wife and sons, together with several committee members.

The leaflet highlighted the need for recycling before incineration and was given out to most of Merrow residents.

The latest date for a Surrey County Council decision on Slyfield and other possible sites is now 7th December.

### Sunday Buses in Merrow

Following several letters of complaint at the withdrawal of Sunday bus services from Merrow, the MRA took up the problem with the Surrey County Council Principal Transport Officer.

Regrettably it was only possible to reinstate services in July. There was difficulty in finding a replacement company willing to operate the services.

### Merrow Railway Station

This subject is coming up for discussion again in the New Year. It is to be hoped that politicians and offi-

cials take note of the views expressed in *Merrow Life* last spring.

It is essential that residents of Merrow, Burpham and Boxgrove Park are enabled to express their views and not just those with vested interests!

### Telecommunication Masts

*Designer Electrical* at 241/243 Epsom Road Merrow is in discussion with Hutchinson 3G with a view to allowing a mast to be placed at the rear of their premises, close to the back of the BP/Safeway parking area. The planning application P/01626 17.8.01 is for a 15 metre high mast.

At the time of writing this is likely to be reduced to 12 metres and a reduction in the number of antennae.



# PAY & PLAY GOLF + PARK & RIDE + CRICKET

Once again revised plans have been submitted to the GBC Planning Department and notified to the public 15.08.2001.

The architectural design report specifies:-

- ❖ Merrow Cricket Club will remain where it is.
- ❖ Parking for 486 cars will be provided to the east of the Cricket Club.
- ❖ Access will be from a new roundabout to be built on the A25 near the Henchley Gate entrance to Temple Court.
- ❖ A separate Golf Club House and Leisure Centre with associated parking will be situated to the south of the cricket ground nearly adjacent to Dragons.
- ❖ A bus pick-up point will be located within the car park allowing proper turning space. It is hoped the buses will arrive and leave at ten-minute intervals.
- ❖ It is intended that the pre-school unit presently using the cricket pavilion will continue.

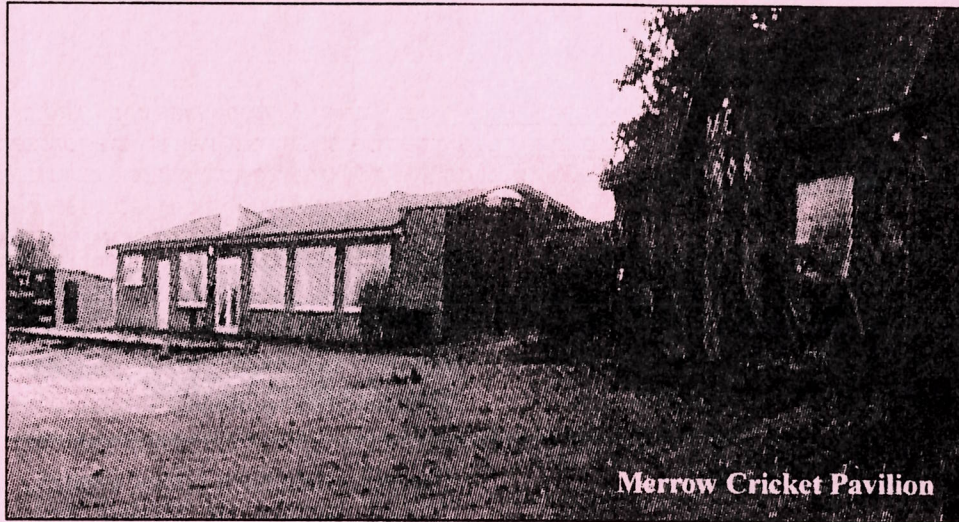
- ❖ The existing cycle track to the north of the A25 will be maintained in the redesign of the roundabout and form a link to the golf course entrance within the site. There will be provision for cycle storage adjoining the bus pick-up point.
- ❖ Lighting of the Park & Ride and roundabout will be by 10 metre high columns.
- ❖ The existing footpaths will be diverted.
- ❖ The golf course now includes the Clandon chalk pit.

The developers declared intention is the creation of Country Clubs with golf and leisure facilities. It is considered by many that the demand for golf courses in the Guildford area is now fully satisfied.

This application therefore creates many points which require further clarification before a view can be taken on whether to support the proposals.

It should be understood that the financing of these plans is still under discussion.

A site plan will be on display at our November Meeting (see notice on back of this Newsletter).



Merrow Cricket Pavilion

## Safer Guildford, Residential Fear of Crime Survey March/April 2001

MRA Committee members helped in the distribution and collection of questionnaires for this Survey.

*Safer Guildford* is a partnership between GBC, SCC and Surrey Police together with other community services. *Safer Guildford* aims to make Guildford an even safer borough. Addresses were taken from the Electoral Roll using every fifth one. As a result we got to visit roads and pathways we never previously knew existed!

Of the 197 houses in Merrow and Burpham, 123 returned their enve-

lope. Out of the 21 districts we had the 11th highest response level.

## Merrow House Kitchen Garden

Plans have once again changed for the development of this site by Martin Grant.

Permission has been granted for one small cottage to be built in Merrow Street immediately beside the footpath to the north of the allotments. Plans will go before the GBC Planning Meeting, probably 16th October, to consider six detached two storey houses with garages. Access would be via Goldfinch Gardens.

There is general support for this scheme amongst local residents, given

the fact that the site will be developed one way or another after some twenty years of vacillation.

## A PLEA FROM THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Merrow Residents' Association is your Association - our aim is to help all Merrow people in achieving a safe, happy and pleasant environment in which to live, work and play. We are planning a recruitment drive in 2002 and would appeal to our present members to help with this by encouraging your friends and neighbours to join.

So please help spread the word on our behalf.

# MERROW WAR MEMORIAL



The Memorial in the evening sun

We are delighted to say that sufficient money has been raised for the renovation work to proceed.

Funds are still being collected and the agreement of Church of England Diocesan Advisory Committee is awaited.

Stonemasons R.T.S. of Brook will carry out the work, which should take about six weeks. It is hoped to start work in November.

Plans are in hand for a rededication service, hopefully, in May 2002. More of this in the next issue. Meanwhile all credit to Tony Neale for all his hard work and perseverance in bringing the project to this point.

## Merrow Residents' Association Executive Committee 2001

Chairman	Mr. Peter Reeve
Treasurer	Mr. George Gunson
Secretary	Mrs. Pat Cousins
Committee	MR DENNIS MASEY
(Environment)	Mrs. Catherine Smith
(Membership)	Mr. Mike Drayson
	Mr. Malcolm Hinkly
	Mrs. Claire Rymell
	Mr. Ken Martin
(GAIN Rep.)	Mr. Graham Thorp
Community Police Officer	PC Steve Dyer

## SUBSCRIPTIONS - Household Membership £4, Single Membership £2.50

The Hon. Treasurer would welcome payment of your 2001 subscription if it is still outstanding. Please send your cheque to: Mr G Gunson,

*Merrow Life* is published by Merrow Residents' Association for circulation to its members. Unless stated, the views expressed may not always represent the views of the Committee of the Association or those of individual members of the Committee. Any enquiries should be addressed to the Secretary.